Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended)   A method for processing specification waiver requests over a network connecting a waiver requestor to a plurality of responders relative to a specification having a plurality of elements, the method comprising:

testing a product;

providing a waiver request database that is operable to store a plurality of waiver requests from the waiver requestor;

initiating and transmitting to the waiver request database a waiver request requesting a waiver if the tested device fails an element of the specification;

receiving at the waiver request database [[a]] the waiver request from the requestor, the request seeking a waiver of at least one of the specification elements from at least one of the plurality of responders;

sending a notification from the waiver request database to the plurality of responders, seeking the requested waiver; of the at least one specification element; and

transmitting [[data]] response from the plurality of responders via the waiver request database to the requestor; and

shipping the product if the plurality of responders approve the waiver request.

, whereby the requestor may determine whether the waiver request has been approved by at least one of the plurality of responders.

2-5.   (canceled)

6.   (original)   A method according to claim 1, and further comprising receiving at least one response to the notification from the plurality of responders.

7.   (original)   A method according to claim 6, further comprising, if the at least one response is a request for additional information about the waiver request:

> notifying the requestor about the request for additional information;

> receiving additional information from the requestor; and

> notifying the plurality of responders about the additional information.

8.   (original)   A method according to claim 7, further comprising receiving a second response from the plurality of responders.

9.   (original)   A method according to claim 6, wherein the at least one response is selected from the group consisting of: approving the waiver request; rejecting the waiver request; requesting to hold the waiver request; and requesting additional information about the waiver request.

10.   (original)   A method according to claim 1, further comprising generating a database entry corresponding to each waiver request in the waiver request database.

11.   (original)   A method according to claim 10, wherein the waiver request database is a distributed database comprising one or more database servers distributed over one or more networks.

12.   (original)   A method according to claim 1, wherein the sending the notification comprises an action selected from the group consisting of: sending an e-mail; sending an instant text message; and sending a prerecorded voice message.

13.   (original)   A method according to claim 1, wherein the sending of the notification is repeated for a certain period of time or until a certain number of responses are received from the plurality of responders.

14.   (canceled)

15.   (previously presented)   A computer readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for web-based processing of a waiver request, the one or more sequences of instructions are configured for:

   providing a waiver request database that is operable to store a plurality of waiver requests from the waiver requestor and product testing specification elements;

   receiving at the waiver request database a waiver request from the requestor, the request seeking a waiver of at least one of the specification elements from at least one of the plurality of responders;

   sending a notification from the waiver request database to the plurality of responders, seeking the requested waiver of the at least one specification element; and

   transmitting data from the waiver request database to the requestor, whereby the requestor may determine whether the waiver request has been approved by at least one of the plurality of responders.

16.   (original)   A computer readable medium according to claim 15, wherein the one or more sequences of instructions are further configured for:

   notifying the requestor about the request for additional information;

   receiving additional information from the requestor; and

   notifying the plurality of responders about the additional information.

17-20. (canceled)